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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1987 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 11 totaled an estimated 16.7 billion ton-miles, 6.2 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the coal miners' vacation period.

Cumulative volume for the first 28 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 478.7 billion ton-miles, up 3.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 11 totaled 355,250, up 2.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 2.2 percent above the preceding holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 0.7 percent in the East but up 5.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed a gain of 8,193 cars (34.3 percent), but motor vehicles and equipment decreased by 3,884 cars (25.2 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the holiday week ended July 4 totaled 94,357 trailers and/or containers, 15.4 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 27 weeks of the year was 2,604,505 trailers and/or containers, up 3.7 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/11/87:

	Loadings in Week ended July 11, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,079	I	8,193	34.3	I	2,459	8.3
Other farm products	3,706	I	21	0.6	D	427	10.3
Metallic ores	15,293	D	3,040	16.6	D	2,337	13.3
Coal	83,777	D	2,790	3.2	I	2,401	3.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,439	I	438	2.9	I	1,655	12.0
Nonmetallic minerals	9,436	D	192	2.0	I	1,238	15.1
Grain mill products	10,436	I	7	0.1	I	1,112	11.9
Food and kindred products	10,048	D	282	2.7	I	363	3.7
Primary forest products	10,509	I	364	3.6	I	1,198	12.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,417	I	525	7.6	D	31	0.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,645	I	494	4.1	I	664	5.5
Chemicals and allied products	24,786	I	2,474	11.1	I	1,093	4.6
Petroleum products	5,221	I	96	1.9	I	773	17.4
Stone, clay and glass products	10,694	I	567	5.6	I	706	7.1
Coke	5,255	I	568	12.1	I	181	3.6
Metals and products	8,445	I	1,185	16.3	D	559	6.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	11,548	D	3,884	25.2	D	1,188	9.3
Waste and scrap materials	7,861	I	389	5.2	I	796	11.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,859	D	29	1.0	D	65	2.2
All other carloads	67,727	I	3,418	5.3	D	2,388	3.4
LCL traffic	69	D	42	37.8	D	14	16.9
Total Cars Loaded	355,250	I	8,480	2.4	I	7,630	2.2
Corresponding week of 1986	346,770						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (28 weeks)	10,733,791	10,465,920	I 2.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
27 Weeks ended July 4	462.0	448.6	I 3.0
Week ended July 11	16.7	15.7	I 6.2
28 Weeks cumulative	478.7	464.3	I 3.1

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